MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI): (a) to (c) A study group constituted for examining the existing geographical distribution of zones and divisions in the wake of Project Unigauge and the construction of Konkan Railway, has suggested a need for its rationalisation. This exercise may also entail the creation of some new zones and divisions.

Further processing for formulation of proposals and other related matters is being undertaken.

**Target fixed for freight traffic by Railways**

451. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed by Government in the current financial year for freight traffic to be handled by the Railways;

(b) the target achieved by the Railways in respect of freight traffic and the income earned by Government as a result thereof;

(c) the main causes for not achieving the target fixed in respect of freight traffic; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to remove those causes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI): (a) and (b) The position is as under:—

| | Target 1995-96 | Target April-Oct. 1995 | Actual April-Oct. 1995 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | (in million tonnes) | |
| Revenue earning freight traffic | 398.00 | 214.25 | 212.72 |
| | | (Rs. In crores) | |
| Freight earning | 15125.00 | 8556.96 | 8589.64 |

(c) and (d) Tight position of wagon availability mixed with heavy detention to wagons by major users etc. resulted in marginal shortfall. Steps have been taken to enhance the level of wagon procurement.

**Revision of pay-scales of UDC**

452. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 497 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd August, 1995 and state:

(a) the details of meetings held by the Board of Arbitration to expedite the case of revision of pay-scale of UDCs of the Central Government Clerical Service after May, 1995 till date;